



CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA

March 13, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ST. MARYS INTRACOASTAL GATEWAY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER at 5:02 pm by Mr. Gant
- II. ROLL CALL: *Mr. Roger A. Weaver; Mrs. Teddie Lockhart; Mr. Gary Straight; Mr. Jim Gant; Mrs. Mary Neff; Mr. Phil Jones; and Councilman Bob Nutter*
QUORUM: YES XX NO

Absent: *Mr. Craig Root; Mrs. Kay Westberry; and Mr. John Morrissey*

Guests: *Mr. Tom Canning; and Mrs. Nutter*
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Review and approval of minutes of February 13, 2014 - Motion by Mr. Bob Nutter; Seconded by Mrs. Teddie Lockhart. All were in favor of the vote.*
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: *No additions to the agenda.*
- V. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – no comments at this time.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Update on the Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG) and Revised Permit Approval: *Mr. Weaver reported that the signs are scheduled to be installed by Public Works within the next few days. With the recent weather conditions and other emergent projects, the sign installation had been delayed. This item will stay on the agenda as old businesses until the grant is closed out.*
 - B. Update on the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant: *Mr. Weaver reported that this grant study and design work continues to move forward with some additional study requirements that have caused some delay. Mr. Gant noted for the record that this committee could apply for an additional CIG grant in October. Mr. Weaver noted that there will also be a Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) available in the fall for which an application will be submitted.*
 - C. Marketing Gateway for Public Use: *a. City Website Update –Mr. Gant reported that information on the property and an application for rental are on the website but are not easily available. b. Temporary Signage and Letters to Local Vendors –Mr. Gant reported that the letters have been mailed and requested that Mr. Weaver look into repairing the current temporary public availability signage. c. Local Scouting Troops for Camping – Mr. Phil Jones talked to a couple branches of Boy Scouts troops and offered the opportunity of hosting a jamboree type event on the property and possibly coupling the event with a trip to Cumberland Island. The contacts that he spoke to were very receptive to the idea and took his contact information. Mr. Gant presented a picture of a portable restroom option that could be used for events on the property. d. Other ways to Market Property: Mrs. Lockhart reported that she met with Roger Rillo from the Downtown Merchants in regards to utilizing the property for an event during Mardi Gras. The coordinator was very receptive to the idea but did not have enough time to orchestrate something for this year. He did note that they would look at the possibility of holding the Chili Cook Off on the property next year. Mr. Gant will speak with Kiwanis to see if the property could be used for the July 4th event.*



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- D. Ex-Officio Members: *Mr. Gant reported that Alyce Thornhill has agreed to be an ex-officio member but could not attend the meeting tonight due to a prior commitment.*
- E. Foram Report: *Mr. Gant reported that at this time he did not have anything to report from the Foram Group. A note was made by a committee member to the dissatisfaction that he has to the current process and question was raised if some alternate efforts should be taken to market the property after this six months of exclusivity to one party. In reply, it was noted that only 6 months of a 2 year commitment to the Foram Group has passed. Furthermore, the Foram Group had advised that the process to find the right partner meeting the five development objectives to develop the Gateway would take time. It was generally concluded that the Foram Group was the best option to find that partner but a progress report of some sort from the Foram Group would be appreciated.*
- F. GA Leadership Program Visit of 9 May: *Mr. Straight reported that the organizer of this event has decided to host the event in the Howard Gilman Waterfront Park instead of the Gateway Property due to lack of facilities (i.e. restrooms, etc.).*
- G. Private vehicle and golf cart access: *Mr. Gant reported that due to recent issues on the property, (i.e. safety, damage to grounds, etc.), the city has decided to temporarily close the vehicle entry gate to the property. This item will be on the March 17th Council agenda. The gate will be opened for special events and the walkway gate will remain open and a post will be installed at the walkway location to prevent golf carts from entering the property.*

Mr. Straight reported on Community Development Planning training that he attended a week ago in Douglasville, GA.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Meeting Date: *Mr. Gant discussed the current meeting date and time and questioned the group if they prefer to meet on the 1st Thursday or 2nd Thursday monthly. Renée will poll the committee and relay information to the chairman.*

VIII. REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEES: NONE

IX. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC—ANY ITEM RELATED TO THE SMIG MISSION:

- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** *was at 5:58 pm with a motion by Mr. Bob Nutter and seconded by Mr. Phil Jones. All were in favor.*

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE

Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.

William Jennings Bryan quoted at the Council presentation on June 14, 2010 regarding the 100 Ready Street Project